

ARCHITECTURAL SHOWCASE

WOMEN'S AND CHILDREN'S FACILITY

CDH Partners, Inc. MARIETTA, GA

Rockdale Medical Center CONYERS, GA



Prompted by the extensive growth in the area, the existing medical center began planning expansion efforts in the late-1990s. For 48 years the hospital had not undergone such major changes as the East Tower expansion, which almost doubled the size of the existing facility. The three-story addition provides enhanced hospital services for inpatient and outpatient care services, community education, and a two-level parking deck.

The new tower focuses on patient care by providing the addition of new inpatient postpartum rooms, a new ICU, and additional private acute care medical/surgical patient rooms. The tower also provides new outpatient services such as an endoscopy suite and women's diagnostics suite. The expansion also contains spaces for other services including community education classrooms, a gift shop, deli with outdoor seating area, chapel, and a pharmacy.

Designers and the center's leadership agreed to utilize some of the philosophies of Planetree when developing the plans for the East Tower, focusing on improving the experience of the patient, family, and staff. The facility features a palette of natural materials, colors, patterns, textures, and daylighting that result in a soothing, healing environment. As the new addition was adjoined to the existing structure, designers took advantage of the opportunity to include a barrel vaulted atrium corridor that became a space for new mothers to take their first walk after giving birth. Divider pan-

Project category: New construction (completed January 2005)

Chief administrator: Michael Porter, CEO, (770) 918-3146

Firm: CDH Partners, Inc., (770) 423-0016

Design team: DeVaughn Grizzle, Senior Project Manager/Designer; Paula Shetterly, Director of Interior Design; Kirsten Wittan, Interior Designer (CDH Partners, Inc.); Structural Design, Pruitt, Eberly, Stone, Inc.; Mechanical & Plumbing Engineering, Johnson, Spellman & Associates; Electrical Engineering, Hibble, Peters and Dawson

Photography: Sabrina A. Carpenter/CDH Partners, Inc.

Total building area (sq. ft.): 204,000

Construction cost/sq. ft.: \$211

Total construction cost (excluding land): \$43,000,000